THE JLA VS.
SUPERMAN
IN ACTION COMICS
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IT'S LIKE GOD HIT THE PAUSE BUTTON ON METROPOLIS.
EVERY TUNNEL WINDING INTO THE CITY TASTES LIKE CARBON MONOXIDE, BUT AT LEAST THE TRAFFIC WAITS PATIENTLY, WAITING BUMPER TO TAIL, WHILE THE PEOPLE INSIDE TEAR EACH OTHER'S THROATS OUT.
AN IDIOT IN A HELICOPTER GIVES A TRAFFIC REPORT EVERY TEN MINUTES ENCOURAGING ALL DRIVERS TO AVOID MIDTOWN IF POSSIBLE.
THE REASON WHY GETS LOST SOMEWHERE BETWEEN AN INSURANCE AD AND A BIRTHDAY DEDICATION.
THIS ISN'T REPORTING! WHAT THE DEVIL'S THE HOLDUP? IN MY DAY, YOU GAVE YOUR AUDIENCE INFORMATION THEY COULD USE.
99.1 FM ST
HI, IT'S PERRY WHITE. JUST A QUICK CALL TO LET YOU KNOW I'M STUCK IN TRAFFIC AND MIGHT BE A LITTLE LATE FOR WORK.
METROPOLIS UNIVERSITY.
ANY IDEA HOW LONG YOU'RE GOING TO BE, MR. WHITE?
HAVEN'T A CLUE, SWEETHEART, BUT BELIEVE ME, NOBODY'S GOING ANYWHERE FAST THIS MORNING.
MIGHT AS WELL PUT IT IN PARK.
P

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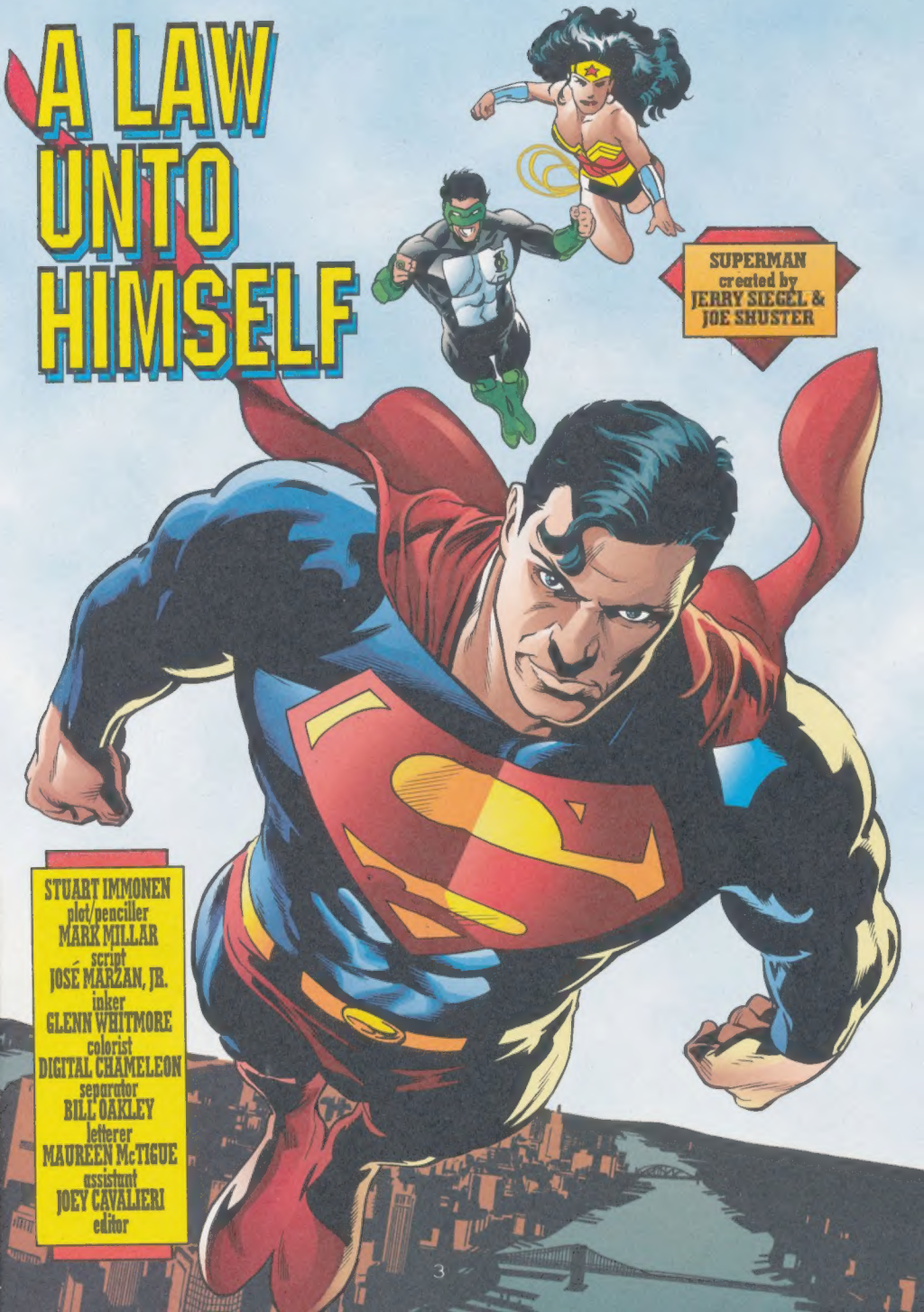
NO SIGN OF OUR OBJECTIVE, BATMAN. WE MUST HAVE JUST MISSED HIM. THERE'S NOTHING BUT... WHOA!
WHAT IS IT, FLASH?
I DON'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M SEEING HERE.
ARE YOU TELLING ME HE DID THIS?
WALLY, THERE'S BEEN A DEVELOPMENT. I WANT YOU TO BREAK OFF RECONNAISSANCE, BUT STAY ALERT AND WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL.
GREEN LANTERN AND WONDER WOMAN HAVE VISUAL...

"... REPEAT, WE HAVE VISUAL."

A LAW UNTO HIMSELF



SUPERMAN
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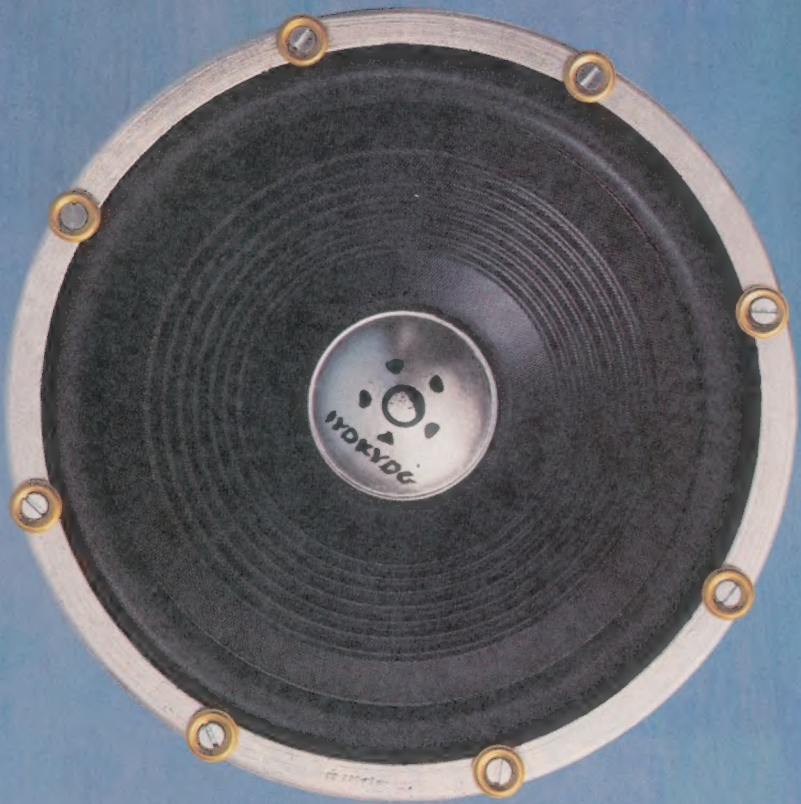
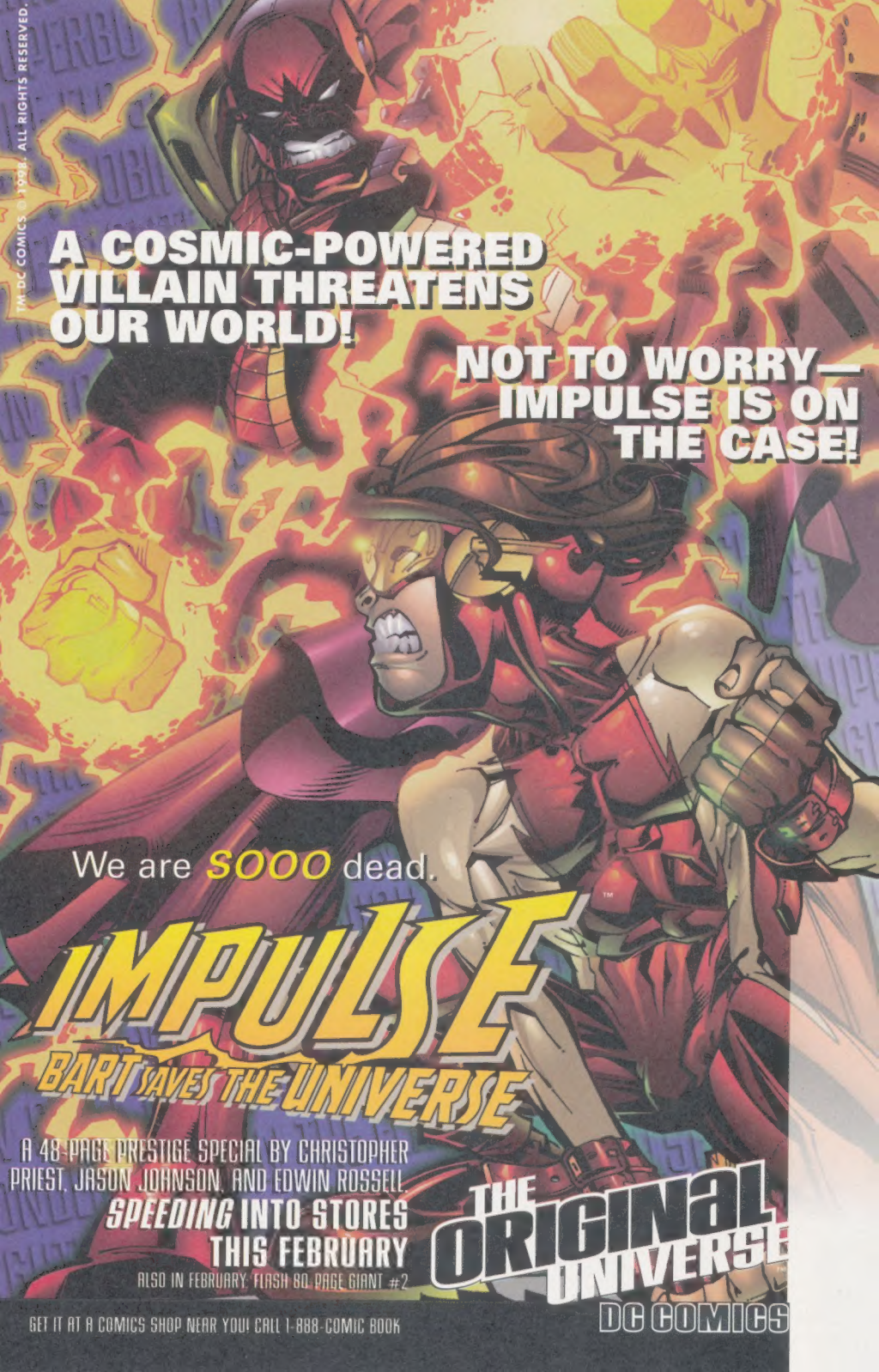
HEY, SUPERMAN! SLOW DOWN SO WE CAN TALK, DUDE!
HE'S NOT RESPONDING, BATMAN.
THERE MUST BE A HUNDRED DIFFERENT WAYS HIS SENSES TELL HIM WE'RE HERE, BUT HE WON'T EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE US.
NOTHING WE DIDN'T ANTICIPATE, WONDER WOMAN.
FORTUNATELY, I'VE GOT SOMETHING OF A REPUTATION FOR MAKING PEOPLE TALK...
JUST BRING HIM TO ME...
...I'LL KEEP THE SITUATION FROM BECOMING EXPLOSIVE.
I SAID "SLOW DOWN," SUPERMAN!
BACK OFF, G.L.! I'VE ALREADY HAD A BAD DAY, AND THIS DOESN'T MAKE THINGS ANY EASIER!
I'M NOT IN THE MOOD FOR YOUR DISTRACTIONS, SON.
IF IT'S A CONTEST OF WILLS YOU WANT, YOU'LL FIND BEING ON CALL 24-7 HAS ME WIRED AND MORE THAN UP TO THE TASK.

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NOT TO WORRY— IMPULSE IS ON THE CASE!
We are SOOO dead.
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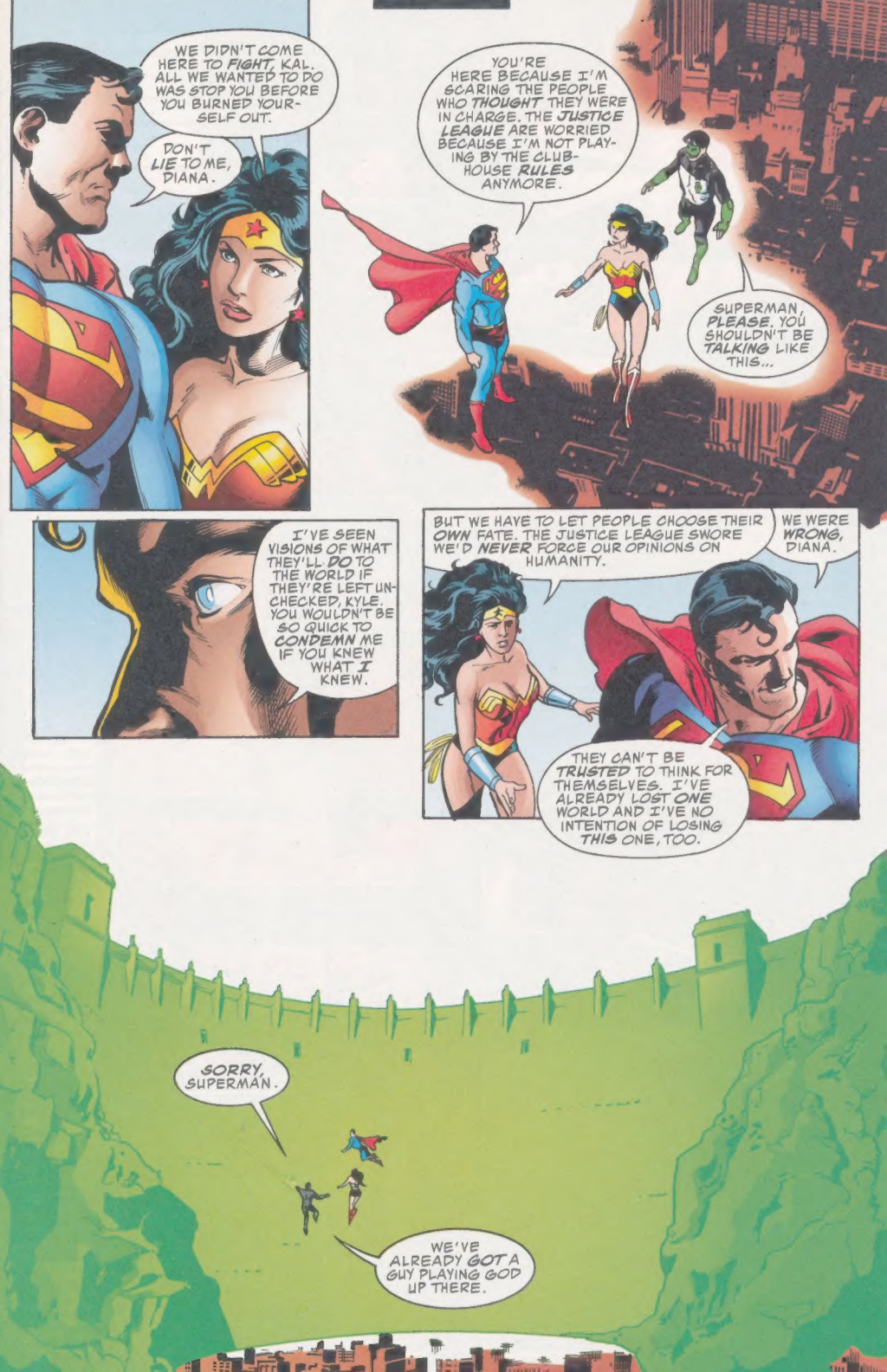
WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO FIGHT, KAL. ALL WE WANTED TO DO WAS STOP YOU BEFORE YOU BURNED YOURSELF OUT.
DON'T LIE TO ME, DIANA.
YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE I'M SCARING THE PEOPLE WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE IN CHARGE. THE JUSTICE LEAGUE ARE WORRIED BECAUSE I'M NOT PLAYING BY THE CLUBHOUSE RULES ANYMORE.
SUPERMAN, PLEASE, YOU SHOULDN'T BE TALKING LIKE THIS...
I'VE SEEN VISIONS OF WHAT THEY'LL DO TO THE WORLD IF THEY'RE LEFT UNCHECKED, KYLE. YOU WOULDN'T BE SO QUICK TO CONDEMN ME IF YOU KNEW WHAT I KNEW.
BUT WE HAVE TO LET PEOPLE CHOOSE THEIR OWN FATE. THE JUSTICE LEAGUE SWORE WE'D NEVER FORCE OUR OPINIONS ON HUMANITY.
WE WERE WRONG, DIANA.
THEY CAN'T BE TRUSTED TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES. I'VE ALREADY LOST ONE WORLD AND I'VE NO INTENTION OF LOSING THIS ONE, TOO.
SORRY, SUPERMAN.
WE'VE ALREADY GOT A GUY PLAYING GOD UP THERE.

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GALACTIC
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YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WE RESPECT YOU, MAN. WE LOOK AT YOU THE WAY EVERYONE ELSE LOOKS AT US.
WHEN YOU TOOK MY PLACE DURING THE FINAL NIGHT--
THE SUN-EATER WILL SEEM LIKE A BIRTHDAY PRESENT COMPARED TO WHAT I'VE SEEN IN MY DREAMS, KYLE!
YOUR DREAMS? LISTEN TO YOURSELF, SUPERMAN. WE USUALLY GET TOGETHER AND FIGHT GUYS WHO COME OUT WITH THAT STUFF...
HE'S DELUSIONAL, GREEN LANTERN...
TRYING TO REASON WITH HIM IN THIS STATE IS A WASTE OF TIME.
DRAW HIM DOWN TO STREET LEVEL AS PLANNED AND LET ME FINISH THE JOB BEFORE HE DESTROYS THE REST OF THE CITY.
I HEARD THAT!
NICE GOING, BATMAN...
WHOOM!

HEY, SLOW DOWN, SON! YOU TRYING TO PUT ME IN TRACTION?
SORRY, MR. WHITE. I WAS JUST HOPING TO CATCH THE END OF MY FIRST CLASS AND WASN'T REALLY LOOKING WHERE I WAS GOING, SIR.
NURSE'S STATION
WELL, I GUESS WE'RE IN THE RIGHT PLACE FOR AN ACCIDENT. WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THE BANDAGED WRIST?
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? SUPERMAN TRASHED THE LEXCORP BUILDING!
THE COPS HAVE CLOSED OFF THE ENTIRE AREA AND WON'T TELL ANYONE WHAT'S GOING ON. IT'S WEIRD, BUT IT'S LIKE THEY'RE TRYING TO PRETEND IT WASN'T SUPERMAN OR SOMETHING.
YOU USED TO BE A REPORTER, MR. WHITE. CAN THEY DO THAT?
PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW THE TRUTH, SON, BUT SUPERMAN IS MORE THAN JUST A MAN NOW. HE'S A POWERFUL SYMBOL ALL ACROSS THE WORLD, AND NEWS OF WHAT HE DOES MUST BE HANDLED CAREFULLY.
BUT WHAT ABOUT FREEDOM OF SPEECH? YOU CAN'T STOP A REPORTER FROM DOING HIS JOB AND TELLING PEOPLE THE TRUTH.
OF COURSE NOT. BUT EVERYTHING ISN'T BLACK AND WHITE ON THE PRINTED PAGE. A REPORTER NEEDS TO KNOW THE FULL STORY BEFORE HE PUTS ANYTHING INTO WORDS.
"FOR ALL WE KNOW, SUPERMAN MIGHT HAVE THE BEST REASON IN THE WORLD FOR DOING WHAT HE'S DONE "

BATMAN TO TEAM: I FOLLOWED GREEN LANTERN'S DESCENT AS BEST I COULD, BUT THE POWER GRID BEING DOWN MIGHT BE INTERFERING WITH THE GLOBAL POSITIONING DEVICE...
NO!
CHOOM!
IGNORE PREVIOUS MESSAGE. I'VE FOUND THEM, BUT I'M GOING TO NEED TRANSPORT. FLASH, MY COORDINATES ARE...
NEVER MIND WHERE YOU ARE, BATMAN, WHERE DO YOU WANNA GO?
I WISH YOU'D STOP DOING THAT, WALLY...
LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE BEING HIT IN THE FACE, HUH?
THIS IS HOW THEY WANT US TO BEHAVE, BUT I'M NOT PERFORMING SPECTACLE FOR THEM ANYMORE!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, KYLE? THESE MEANINGLESS PUNCH-OUTS ARE THE REASON WE NEVER ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!
THINGS ARE GOING TO BE DONE MY WAY NOW AND YOUR LITTLE TRINKET RING ISN'T GOING TO STOP ME, SON.
STOPPING YOU WAS NEVER HIS INTENTION, SUPERMAN. HE JUST NEEDED TO CREATE A DISTRACTION...
...TO LET ME DO THIS.
GET OUT! GET OUT OF MY HEAD!

...OR MAYBE IT'S TIME I SHARED THESE VISIONS, J'ONN.
PERHAPS THIS IS THE ONLY WAY YOU PEOPLE WILL APPRECIATE WHAT I'M ACTUALLY TRYING TO DO HERE.
SCORCHED EARTH .. BLACK SKIES...
DESERTS WHERE THERE USED TO BE SEAS...
ARE THOSE SHADOWS ON THE GROUND STILL ALIVE, SUPERMAN...?
DID THAT SICK THING UP THERE USED TO BE THE SUN...?
FORGIVE ME, SUPERMAN ...I HAD NO IDEA...
YOU'RE INSANE. AND IT APPEARS TO BE CONTAGIOUS...
DON'T TRY TO PRETEND YOU THINK I'M WRONG, BATMAN. I CAN SEE THROUGH MORE THAN YOUR BONES.
IF YOU REALLY WANTED TO TAKE ME OUT, ALL YOU'D HAVE TO DO IS USE THE KRYPTONITE I GAVE YOU.
BUT YOU WON'T, BECAUSE DEEP DOWN, YOU KNOW WHAT I'M DOING HERE IS MORALLY JUSTIFIABLE.
YOU'VE BECOME AN AUTOCRAT, UNWILLING TO LISTEN TO ANYONE BUT YOURSELF, SUPERMAN...
...IF I HAVEN'T USED THE KRYPTONITE YET, IT'S ONLY BECAUSE I STILL HOPED I COULD MAKE YOU SEE SENSE.
IF YOU'RE SO SURE THAT YOU'RE RIGHT AND I'M WRONG, THEN WE'RE BOTH AUTOCRATS, BATMAN.
THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT I DON'T HIDE BEHIND A MASK...

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CLIFFHANGER!

SHOWING YOUR FACE DOESN'T MAKE YOU ANY LESS ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PEOPLE.
YOU WEREN'T ELECTED, BATMAN.
PERHAPS I SHOULD REMIND YOU THAT NONE OF US WERE.
I WAS ELECTED, SUPERMAN, AND THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WAS FORMED TO PROTECT EVERYONE'S RIGHTS.
YOUR SUPPOSED PEACE MISSION HAS BEEN ABOUT AS EFFECTIVE AS BATMAN'S SYNTHETIC KRYPTONITE, DIANA...
AND AS FOR THE JUSTICE LEAGUE...
HAS OUR LITTLE DEMOCRACY ON THE MOON BEEN ENOUGH TO STOP EARTH'S DECLINE? ARE YOU REALLY PREPARED TO PROTECT EVERY SINGLE INDIVIDUAL...?

"...BECAUSE I AM. I HAVE TO. IT'S MY JOB!"
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR EXCUSES, OUTBURST. YOU WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALLOWING SUPERMAN TO LEAVE, AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THAT MAKES YOU AN ACCESSORY TO HIS CRIMES.
BUT, CAPTAIN SAWYER... HE'S SUPERMAN...
IT'S NOT EXACTLY A FIGHT WE WERE GONNA WIN.
THIS BADGE MEANS I'M THE ONE WHO MAKES THOSE DECISIONS, PAL. WHEN ARE YOU PEOPLE GOING TO REALIZE THAT WEARING LYCRA BODYSTOCKINGS DOESN'T GIVE YOU A LICENSE TO RULE THE WORLD?
I THINK YOU'D BETTER COME WITH US, SON.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, INSPECTOR TURPIN, I THINK IT MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE IF OUTBURST WERE RELEASED INTO MY CUSTODY.
AFTER ALL, AS THE PRESIDENT AND FINANCIER BEHIND THE YOUNG SUPERMEN OF AMERICA, THE BOY ANSWERS DIRECTLY TO ME.
ARE YOU GIVING US A CHOICE HERE, LUTHOR?
TO BE HONEST, MAGGIE... I'M JUST BEING POLITE.
THE MATTER IS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF D.E.O.* AGENTS PECK AND DUTTON AS OF THIS PRECISE MOMENT IN TIME.
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YOU DESTROY MAJOR CITIES.
YOU RESCUE BEAUTIFUL WOMEN.

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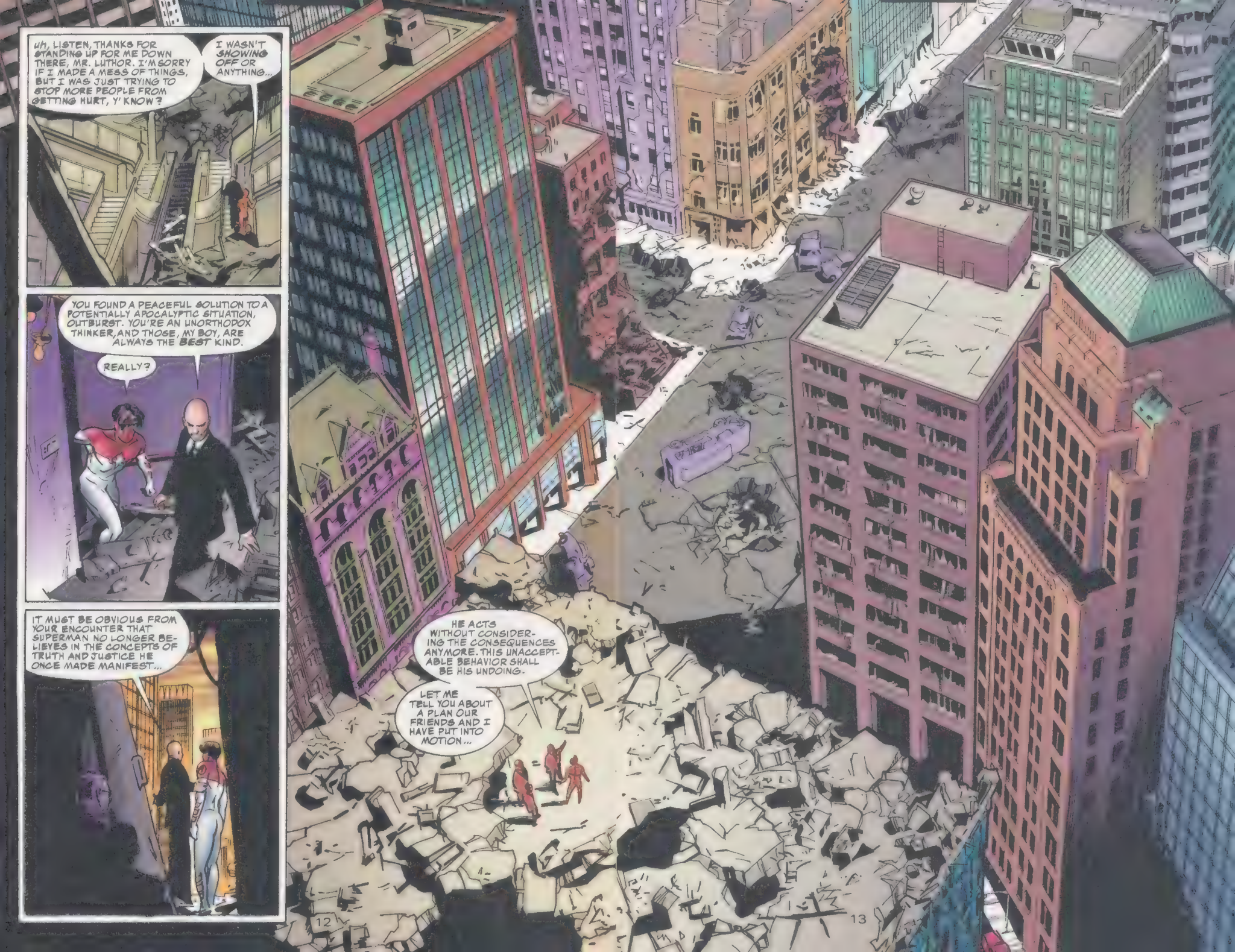
uh, LISTEN, THANKS FOR STANDING UP FOR ME DOWN THERE, MR. LUTHOR. I'M SORRY IF I MADE A MESS OF THINGS, BUT I WAS JUST TRYING TO STOP MORE PEOPLE FROM GETTING HURT, Y' KNOW?
I WASN'T SHOWING OFF OR ANYTHING...
YOU FOUND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO A POTENTIALLY APOCALYPTIC SITUATION, OUTBURST. YOU'RE AN UNORTHODOX THINKER, AND THOSE, MY BOY, ARE ALWAYS THE BEST KIND.
REALLY?
IT MUST BE OBVIOUS FROM YOUR ENCOUNTER THAT SUPERMAN NO LONGER BELIEVES IN THE CONCEPTS OF TRUTH AND JUSTICE HE ONCE MADE MANIFEST...
HE ACTS WITHOUT CONSIDERING THE CONSEQUENCES ANYMORE. THIS UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR SHALL BE HIS UNDOING.
LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT A PLAN OUR FRIENDS AND I HAVE PUT INTO MOTION...
12
13

FOR AMERICA!
FOR DEMOCRACY!
FOR TOMORROW!

THE JUSTICE SOCIETY RETURNS!

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THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPER-TEAM IS BACK
IN NINE BLOCKBUSTER SPECIALS!
DO YOUR PART—LOOK FOR
THEM THIS MARCH!

THE ORIGINAL UNIVERSE™

DC COMICS

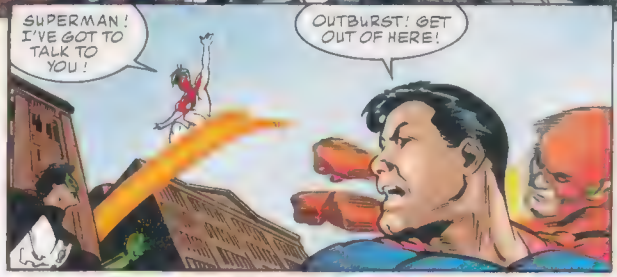
"WELL, NOW, HERE'S A SURPRISE..."
BOWLING
SPORTSWEAR STOCKINGS GLOVES
BAR
LIFE
LEXNET
...RON TROUPE PAYS HIS SISTER A VISIT, BUT FORGETS HIS GIRLFRIEND.
DON'T GET ME STARTED, LENDA. I'M NOT IN THE MOOD.
LUCY'S HAVING ENOUGH TROUBLE WITH THE PREGNANCY WITHOUT COMING HERE AND GETTING ATTITUDE FROM YOU... AND, BY THE WAY, IT'S FIANCÉE, NOT GIRLFRIEND. AS IN YOUR FUTURE SISTER-IN-LAW.
OH, I DON'T HAVE AN ATTITUDE PROBLEM, RON. MISS LANE IS THE ONE WHO DOESN'T SEEM TO WALK IN BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS.
IS THIS WHY YOU WANTED ME UP HERE TODAY? IF IT IS, I'M GETTING THE NEXT BUS BACK TO THE BANK...
AND MISS AN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS?
MISTER STERN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THERE'S A LOT MORE YOU COULD BE DOING WITH YOUR LIFE THAN WORKING IN A BANK, RON. IF YOU HAVE A MOMENT, I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU WHAT I HAVE IN MIND.
"YOU KNOW THAT VACANT STORE-FRONT ON W. 9TH STREET?"
"THE ONE HIT BY THE FIRE?"

MAN, WHAT HAVE I DONE?
THIS SITUATION IS TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL. IF EVERYTHING MR. LUTHOR SAID WAS TRUE...
HEY, MITCH!
THIS FIRE THE BIG EMERGENCY?
I FIGURED WE MUST BE UP AGAINST DOOMSDAY OR SOMETHING WHEN YOU SAID YOU NEEDED THE WHOLE ELITE BRIGADE.
ANY KITTENS STUCK IN TREES WHILE WE'RE HERE?
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN, GUYS. I JUST WANT BACKUP FOR A BIG FIGHT AND NEED TO KNOW IF YOU'RE UP FOR SOME ROUGH STUFF.
O'MON, MITCH. WE'RE ONE OF THOSE SUPER-TEAMS YOU SEE ON TV.
THE ROUGHER, THE BETTER!
NONA SAID IT, DUDE. WE'RE UP FOR ANY FIGHT! RIGHT, TEAM?
LIKE YOU EVEN NEEDED TO ASK.

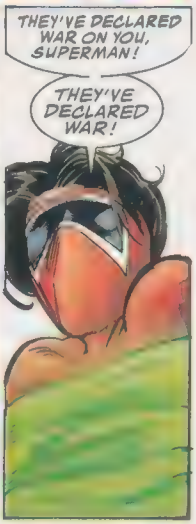
OKAY, GO GET 'EM!
WHOA!
THAT'S THE JLA!
I MEAN, THAT REALLY IS THE JLA!
TEN OUT OF TEN FOR OBSERVATION, CAL. YOU SCARED?
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT.
JUST CREATE SOME KIND OF DIVERSION AND GIVE ME A CHANCE TO GET TO SUPERMAN. THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO TELL HIM!
WE'RE LISTENING.

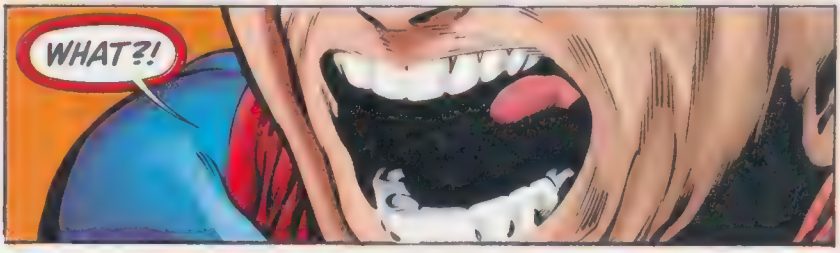
NO MORE STALLING!
PICKING A FIGHT WITH US MAKES ME THINK HE HASN'T A CLUE!
YOU BETTER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE, OUTBURST.

A LITTLE TACTILE TELE-KINETIC BLAST SHOULD--
HUH?


SUPERMAN! I'VE GOT TO TALK TO YOU!
OUTBURST! GET OUT OF HERE!

THE U.N. HAVE BEEN ON THE PHONE TO THE MILITARY, SUPERMAN!
UNLESS YOU SURRENDER, THEY'RE LAUNCHING A FULL-SCALE ATTACK AND THEY DON'T CARE WHERE YOU ARE!
WHAT?


THEY'VE DECLARED WAR ON YOU, SUPERMAN!
THEY'VE DECLARED WAR!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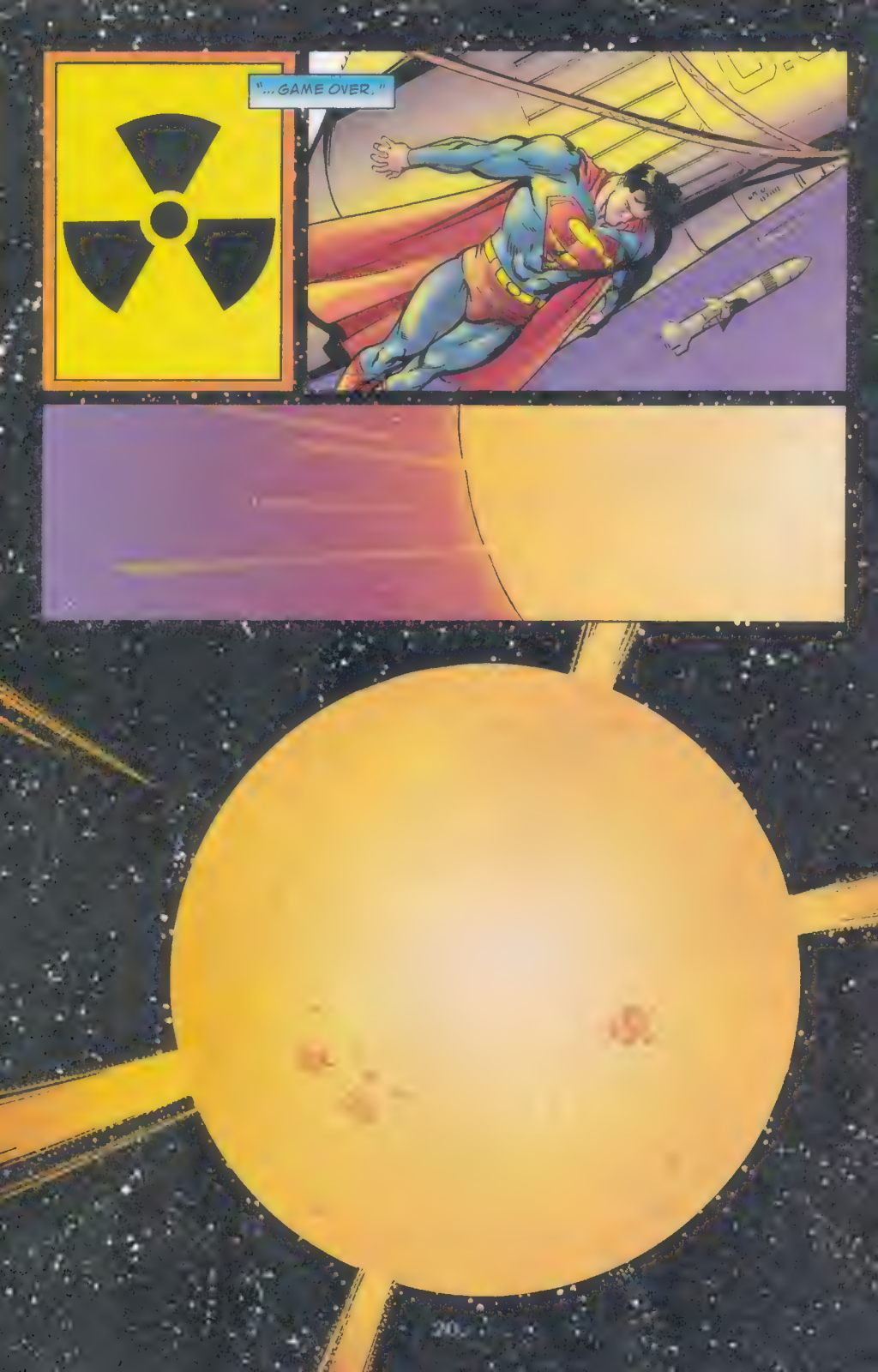
X1TN98

GREAT HERA! DID YOU FEEL THAT?
IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE AIR CHANGED DENSITY FOR A MOMENT!
WHAT WE JUST EXPERIENCED WAS AN INTENSE SUB-SONIC BURST...
...AN EMERGENCY FLARE, IF YOU LIKE
I BELIEVE SUPERMAN HAS CALLED IN THE TROOPS, PEOPLE.
"WHAT LUNACY HAS WROUGHT THIS? HOW COULD I HAVE LET THEM GO THIS FAR?
"WAS IT A MISTAKE TO DEFEND A SPECIES SO DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE ANNIHILATION THAT THEY WOULD DESTROY EVERYTHING THEY HAVE EVER LOVED?
"HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO NAIVE THAT I IGNORED THE LESSONS OF HUMAN HISTORY, THE ONE CONSTANT SINCE TIME BEGAN...?
"...THAT, GIVEN THE CHANCE, MEN WILL TAKE UP ARMS AGAINST ONE ANOTHER UNTIL THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO FIGHT FOR.

THEY HAVE PILLAGED THE EARTH...
...SHAPED AND MOLDED IT IN THEIR OWN IMAGE...
"MADE IT GROW TO FEED A POPULATION TOO LARGE TO SUSTAIN...
"BURNED IT DOWN WHEN IT NO LONGER SERVED THEIR PURPOSES...
"THEY WOULD DESTROY WHAT THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND...
"...KILLING THEMSELVES IN THE PROCESS."
I COULDN'T PREVENT KRYPTON'S FATE, BUT I CAN SAVE EARTH.
NO MATTER WHAT I HAVE TO DO, I WON'T LET THESE PEOPLE DESTROY THEMSELVES.
CHECKMATE, SUPERMAN.
OR, IF YOU PREFER...


"...GAME OVER."

YOU MUST BE ABOUT THE FIRST TEACHER WE EVER STAYED AWAKE FOR, MR. WHITE. I GUESS PRINT JOURNALISM'S LOSS WAS OUR GAIN, huh?
OH, I DON'T KNOW IF ME AND NEWSPAPERS ARE GOING TO BE SLEEPING IN SEPARATE BEDS FOREVER, SON.
SOONER OR LATER, A MAN'S GOT TO...
GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST!
WHAT'S THAT?
MR. WHITE? MY NAME'S JEROME ODETTS, SIR... THE FELLA WITH THE FARMHOUSE. I'M A FRIEND OF LOIS LANE...
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HER FOR DAYS, BUT HAVEN'T HAD MUCH LUCK. COULD YOU SPARE A COUPLE OF MINUTES?
CERTAINLY. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
WELL, LOIS GAVE ME YOUR NUMBER AND YOUR WIFE SAID YOU'D BE HERE AND... HECK, THIS IS GOING TO SOUND CRAZY, BUT I FOUND SOMETHING WEIRD ON MY PROPERTY AND NEED SOME HELP.
NATURALLY, I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE LOIS LANE TO BE OUT AND ABOUT WITHOUT HER BELOVED CELL-PHONE, MR. ODETTS...
"... I WONDER WHERE SHE IS."

THIS IS LOIS LANE.
SHE STARTED TALKING AT SIX MONTHS, COULD READ AND WRITE BY TWO AND INTERVIEWED THE PRESIDENT FOR HER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER.
IT TAKES A SPECIAL TYPE OF PERSON TO SNARE A PULITZER AT TWENTY-THREE AND CHARM AN ALIEN FROM THE SKIES, BUT LOIS LANE HAS A VERY SIMPLE SECRET...
SHE NEVER GIVES UP
THANK YOU, S.T.A.R. LABS. YOU'LL NEVER KNOW IT, BUT YOU MIGHT JUST HAVE SAVED MY MARRIAGE.
AT LEAST I'M IN ANTARCTICA AT THE RIGHT TIME OF YEAR.
SUMMER IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE MEANS I'LL HAVE PLENTY OF LIGHT FOR THE LONG TREK TO CLARK'S FORTRESS.
HOPE I DIDN'T TAKE A WRONG TURN AT ALEXANDER ISLAND.
I'M NOT EXACTLY USED TO COMING HERE BY FOOT, BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET MY BEARINGS ON THE NEXT RIDGE...
OH, LORD CLARK...
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK IN MAN of TOMORROW #13!

RE:ACTION

ACTION COMICS #748

Hi, folks. Before we get started, it's that time of the year again when we encourage everyone to write in to us and let us know how we're doing. We love getting letters, and we'd love to see more of you writing in to us. C'mon, don't be shy! Tell us what you think of the Super-books, just like these folks...

Dear DC (re ACTION COMICS #748):

I love it. I don't care if I'm the only one. This storyline rules! Just seeing the Linear Men and Liri Lee back again made this issue a "ten" for me.

Dominus really is a great bad guy; he gives you the creeps. Having Dominus go right up to Pa Kent disguised as Superman was a great way to show the incredible capabilities he has in making life miserable for Superman. And if you make life miserable for Superman, you're making an edge-of-your-seat, waiting-for-next-week-to-get-here comic book. I can't wait to see this storyline continue—mostly to see Superman beat this egotistical Dominus, but also to see the mystery between Superman and Kismet.

I'm also anxious to see how the *Daily Planet* situation is going to evolve. It looks like it'll make for a lot of interesting reading, seeing how our favorite cast members react to the unfolding changes. Great issue. Keep them coming.

WILDSTAR D
POSTED ON AMERICA ONLINE

As you now know, Wildstar, the Daily Planet *is no more. LexCom's the source for news in Metropolis now—provided Lex Luthor approves of it!*

Dear Re:Action:

ACTION COMICS #748 was an interesting exercise in the logic of large-scale narrative organization. It was a good return to form after the wandering of the preceding two weeks' issues, but there was almost a certain undercutting inevitability to it—logically, it *had* to be this way, or everything would fall apart. The initial triangle issues 22 to 32 represented a major and ambitious undertaking that needed to resolve itself in a way that would exceed what was after all, in terms of structure, still only the statement of the case. In order for that statement to have meaning, the resolution had to exceed what the statement allowed us to know.

The problem, though, is that the statement *suggested* even more. The punch-up in triangle number 33 was so generic as to be an anticlimax that rendered the statement almost pointless. It was like it was spliced in from somewhere else, with the accumulated momentum and suggestion of the preceding eleven issues abruptly dissipated. One instinctively rejected it as the climax since its impoverished generics made a mockery of the imagination that had come before it. There had to be more. But then, while waiting for the *real* Fifth Act to show up, we start getting Act One of something new. At this point, we're sitting dead in the water, with the memory of issues 22 to 33 floating on the surface. Double-plus-ungood, guys, which brings us to triangle number 35, ACTION #748.

Pages 14 to 22 restate in nine *pages* the 11 triangle *issues* that made this whole endeavor worthwhile—nine pages that depend entirely on the memory of the issues that constituted the original statement, and that through *re*statement go a long way toward restoring them as the foundation of the narrative. They're an extremely elegant nine pages, a simple *graphic* idea rigorously carried through to *narrative* effect. In ordinary circumstances, this would probably be deserving of a small standing ovation. In the current context, though, it still comes across as damage control (albeit inspired damage control), and the resumption of momentum with the train back on the tracks is nevertheless heading for that promised Fifth Act while still needing to share space with a new narrative arc that is as yet nowhere near as interesting. I don't recall you folks ever really botching a finale before, so the odds are good you'll finally get around to an ending worthy of the buildup, but gee whiz, this is overdue wizardry in the midst of seriously clumsy ball handling.

In other news, it's good to see Lois staying *au courant* with her side-slit mini, one of the more provocative (if puzzlingly redundant) fashion moves of the nineties.

GARY CORDUAN
(GCORD@NETCOM.COM)
LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA

Interesting points, Gary, but we think those nine pages accomplished several things—they not only recapped events from previous issues, but did so in a way that new readers just jumping on could follow. We get a great battle between Superman and Dominus, learn just how powerful the villain is and what he's looking for, and top it off with an exciting cliffhanger. Still think it was clumsy ball handling?

DC COMICS
1700 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY
10019

Dear Re:Action:

The perils of the *Daily Planet* and the machinations of Lex Luthor seem to be of lesser import at this time. Only Kismet shielded within the Hypersector is of much importance.

If the Linear Men had been a little more timely, Superman would not be in the state he ended up in in ACTION #748. Assuming that Superman shakes off Dominus's latest attack, why should he believe the Linear Men are who they say they are, or accept their assistance? My compliments to the artistic team for every shrinking, but fairly clear panelette.

When this is all over, we'll need a complete origin of Dominus, and an account of what the Linear Men were doing during his rampage.

RONALD D. HELD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA

We delved into Dominus's origins somewhat with SUPERMAN #139, Ronald, but don't think we've nothing left to learn about him. In fact, you're gonna learn a lot more about him very soon...

Dear Re:Action:

I can't say I understand everything about Dominus and what he's after, but I do know when I see good writing and art, and "Chasing the Ancient of Days" (ACTION COMICS #748) was it. Stuart Immonen's writing continues to get stronger, and his art is better than ever. All of those panels from pages 17 to 21 were incredible! I don't know if a separate writer and artist could have done this—it's obvious Stuart was thinking about how he wanted to tell the story. And it's not like the artist would argue with the writer about doing these pages, in this case!

What I'm glad to see is that for the first time in a long time, Superman's having a problem going one-on-one with a bad guy. Powerful new villains have been hard to come by in the Super-books, but Dominus has been up to the task so far. Hopefully, he'll catch on like a Doomsday or a Cyborg (even though he's getting real stale now).

JAMES ELCIK
FLUSHING, NY

Dominus is definitely making his mark on Superman, James; in fact, Superman has yet to learn just how much of a mark he's made. We'll see soon enough!

Our next letter writer has a different opponent in mind...

Dear Editors:

Superman never really interested me as a hero. Now I think he's probably the greatest hero we've ever seen in comics.

Let me explain. I never paid attention to Superman until his powers changed. When he became the "Man of Teal," I thought it was absolutely, positively, awesomely...well, you get the point. I thought it was genius.

My first Superman comic was MAN OF STEEL #67, when his new powers were halfway there. And it was really spectacular when he got his new costume in SUPERMAN #123. I admit it was a little hard for me when he changed back to the original Superman, but one reason I kept buying the comics was to see Clark Kent's reaction and adaptation to his old powers again.

And now for the real reason I wrote this letter. I can accept the loss of the energy-based Superman if somehow—through an ELSEWORLDS or whatever—you give fans the ultimate face-off between the Man of Teal and the Man of Steel! I couldn't care less who wins. I just want a 40- to 50-page fight—mind-blowing artwork, weaknesses exploited (e.g., Kryptonite), intense, well-thought-out, good old-fashioned battle. None of that "To Be Continued" stuff, either—that's just torture.

Please—will ya do this for us loyal fans? If you decide to do it, don't wait until December, 1999 to start—I can't wait that long. You can start, hmm, as soon as you get this letter! Just do it at super-speed so it can be on the shelves the next day.

RICKY DENNIS
CINCINNATI, OH

P.S. Would it kill ya to print this?

It probably wouldn't kill us, Ricky, but having us do a special issue like that at super-speed...Joey? You OK? Joey? JOEY?! Oops, not to worry—he just fainted.

Actually, seeing the energy-based Superman outfit again may not be out of the question. Who says Superman has to wear it?

—Mike McAvennie
Offering food for thought.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

IN ONE WEEK: Looks like even the JLA can't stop Superman in MAN OF TOMORROW #13, especially since Big Blue has a little help! Louise Simonson, Paul Ryan and Denis Janke tell all in seven days!

IN TWO WEEKS: MAN OF STEEL #88 asks that million-dollar question: Can *anyone* stop Superman? And if they can, do we want them to? Mark Schultz, Doug Mahnke and Dennis Janke give us an answer we may not like in fourteen days!

IN THREE WEEKS: While Outburst discovers that the Supermen of America isn't the dream team he hoped for in SUPERMAN #144, the Man of Steel's Fortress is destroyed! Dan Jurgens, Steve Epting and Joe Rubinstein explode into action in twenty-one days!

IN FOUR WEEKS: The Fortress is a shambles in ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #567, and the answer to Superman's problems lies beneath the rubble! Karl Kesel, Jerry Ordway, Paul Ryan and Denis Rodier start diggin' in thirty-five days!

IN FIVE WEEKS: Even more secrets are revealed in ACTION #754! We've learned who's responsible for Superman's problems, but how did this powerful threat come to be in the first place? Stuart Immonen, Mark Millar and José Marzan, Jr. reveal our antagonist's origins and zone out in thirty-five days!

dccomics.com
KEYWORD: DC COMICS ON AOL

The battle you never thought you'd see (but aren't you glad you did?) comes to life on this month's cover, thanks to the no-punch-pulling power of Stuart Immonen, José Marzan, Jr., and Patrick Martin!

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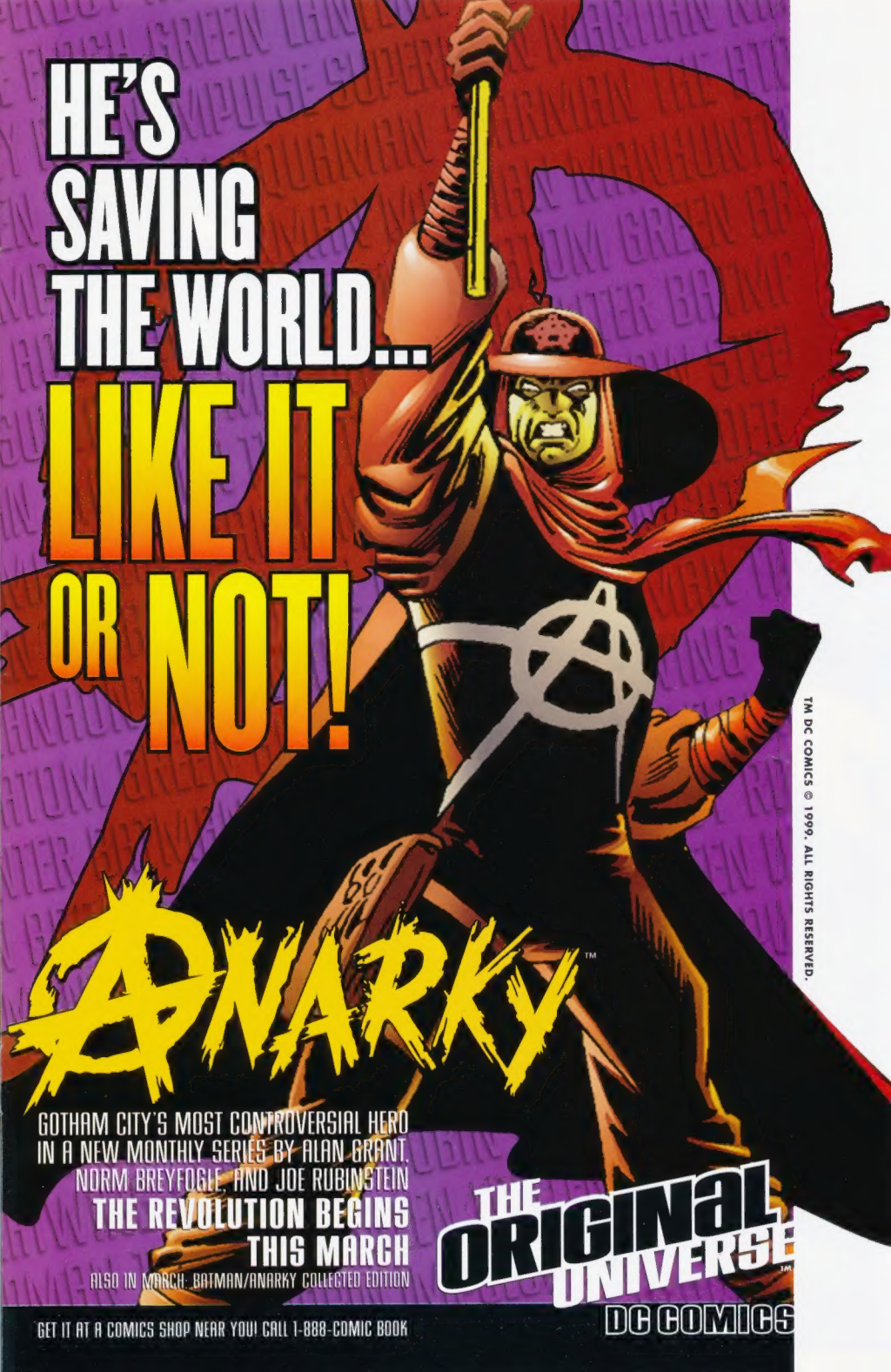
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VOLTRON
DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSE

リカでは読め
言っても見た
読める人は少

める人は少ない
た目がカッコイ
ないだろうけど

FAT JOE AS ファット・ジョー

GOODIE MOB AS グッディー・モブ

AFRIKA BAMBAATAA & JAZZY JAY AS アフリカ・バムバーター & ジャジー・ジェイ

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R REFRESHING
EXTREMELY INSTRUMENTAL HEAVY LY AND MAY BE CHOSEN FOR THIS

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